

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A stator comprising:

~~a cylindrical iron core;~~

a cylindrical iron core including a plurality of slots that is provided around an inner circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core and including an opening portion, and a welded portion in which abutting end faces of the cylindrical iron core are only partially welded together at an outer circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core so that the cylindrical iron core has a lower radial crushing strength at the welded portion than at other portions of the cylindrical iron core; and

a coil disposed in the slots[[,]]

~~wherein a portion with a lower radial crushing strength is provided in at least a part of the iron core in a circumferential direction.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The stator according to claim [[1]] 13,

~~wherein the stator is produced by disposing the coil in a strip iron core provided with the slots including an opening portion, and forming the iron core in the shape of an annulus ring,~~
includes a welded portion in which [[the]] abutting surfaces of the iron core are partially welded together.

Claims 3-10 (Canceled)

11. (New) A stator comprising:

a cylindrical iron core including a plurality of slots provided around an inner circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core and a notch portion provided in an inner wall surface of one of the slots; and

a coil disposed in the slots,

wherein the notch portion comprises a linear slit extending only partially through the cylindrical iron core in a radial direction so that the cylindrical iron core has a lower radial crushing strength at the notch portion than at other portions of the cylindrical iron core.

12. (New) The stator according to claim 11, wherein the cylindrical iron core includes four notch portions provided in the inner wall surfaces of four of the slots located at intervals of 90 degrees around the inner circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core.

13. (New) A stator comprising:

a cylindrical iron core including a plurality of slots provided around an inner circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core, and a plurality of first concave portions and a second concave portion provided in an outer circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core; and
a coil disposed in the slots,

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wherein a depth of the second concave portion is larger than a depth of the first concave portions so that the cylindrical iron core has a lower radial crushing strength at the second concave portion than at other portions of the cylindrical iron core.

14. (New) The stator according to claim 13, wherein the cylindrical iron core includes four second concave portions provided at intervals of 90 degrees around the outer circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core.